

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 HEW-06 OES-06 AGRE-00 COME-00

L-03 /033 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8095

UNCLAS MANILA 5096

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJ: PENDING U.S. BAN ON USE OF SACCHARIN IN FOOD AND BEVERAGES

REF: STATE 063338

1. AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL, EMBASSY HAS ASKED PHILIPPINE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING REGULATIONS AND CURRENT STATUS OF USE OF ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER "SACCHARIN" IN FOOD AND DRUG PRODUCTS. PERTINENT EXCERPTS OF FDA REPLY TO EMBASSY QUERY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE RECENT PRONOUNCEMENT FROM U.S. FDA OF THEIR PROPOSAL TO BAN ITS USE IN FOOD PRODUCTS.

THERE IS AN EXISTING BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF SACCHARIN BY UNAUTHORIZED DEALERS. IT CAN BE IMPORTED ONLY BY MANUFACTURERS OF ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER PRODUCTS (TABLETS AND LIQUIDS) WHICH ARE INTENDED FOR THE USE OF DIABETICS AND PATIENTS WHO MUST RESTRICT THEIR INTAKE OF SUGAR.

AT PRESENT, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE MUCH OF A PROBLEM REGARDING ITS RESTRICTION, BECAUSE USE OF SACCHARIN IN FOOD PRODUCTS HAS ALWAYS BEEN PROHIBITED AND WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY LOCAL MANUFACTURER USING IT EXCEPT WHAT I HAVE MENTIONED ABOVE.

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HOWEVER, WE ARE WAITING FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AND WE MAY HAVE TO REFER THIS MATTER TO OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE BEFORE WE CAN MAKE A FINAL DECISION. UNQUOTE.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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